

(a) whether there is any proposal for the expansion of air services in the country;

(b) if so, what is the programme for 2001-2002; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Airline operators are free to operate on any route/to connect any place in their commercial judgement subject of course to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines which provide for certain minimum operations in specified category of routes.

Dumping of Zinc-Oxide and Choline Chloride

558. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had initiated anti dumping investigation against import of Zinc-Oxide from China and Choline Chloride from China and European Union;

(b) the estimate of loss suffered by domestic industry due to this dumping; and

(c) by when investigation is likely to be completed and what further action is proposed in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) The Anti-Dumping investigations have been initiated against import of Zinc-Oxide from China on 8.12.2000 and on Choline Chloride against China and EU on 6.12.2000. The Preliminary Findings on import of Choline Chloride from China and EU have also been recommended on 22.2.2001.

(b) It is not possible to quantify the effect of imports of these products on the business of the domestic industry.

(c) The Anti-Dumping investigations are conducted under Sections 9A, 9B & 9C of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 as amended in 1995. The normal time limit allowed for conclusion of the Anti-Dumping proceedings and submission of Final Findings is one year from the

date of initiation of the investigation. However, on the basis of the Preliminary Findings, duty may be imposed and levied by the Department of Revenue within 2½ to 3 months from the date of initiation to provide relief to the Domestic Industry.

Export-Import Trend of Commodities

559. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of export-import trend of the various commodities in the country during the last two years, till date;

(b) the details of main items which have been exported during this period; and

(c) what steps are being taken or are proposed to be taken by Government to increase the export of our country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) As per the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S), details of principal commodities and their import and export during the last two years in US Million Dollars is as under:

| Export Commodities | 1998-99 | 1999-2000* | 2000-2001 (April-Oct.)* |
|------------------------------|---------|------------|----------------------------|
| Plantation | 949 | 722 | 357 |
| Agri. Products | 3998 | 3577 | 1917 |
| Marine Products | 1038 | 1180 | 781 |
| Ores & Mineral | 893 | 907 | 656 |
| Leather & Products | 1661 | 1538 | 1150 |
| Gems & Jewellery | 5929 | 7636 | 4503 |
| Sports Goods | 73 | 64 | 40 |
| Chemicals & related products | 4165 | 4735 | 3380 |
| Engg. Goods | 3805 | 4373 | 3213 |
| Electronic Goods | 588 | 574 | 522 |
| Textiles | 8323 | 9253 | 6195 |

*Provisional